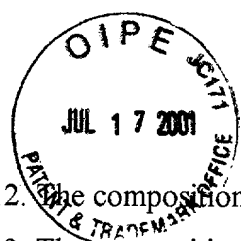


What is claimed is:

1. A method of whitening stained or discolored teeth in the oral cavity which comprises applying to the teeth a two component whitening composition, which will whiten stained or discolored teeth, when applied thereto, the composition being comprised of a first component containing in a matrix, a safe amount of a peroxygen compound effective to whiten teeth, and a second component in a matrix containing an insoluble transition metal oxide complexed with metal chelating agents, the components being maintained separate from each other until dispensed for application to the teeth, wherein the mixing of the components results in the activation of the peroxygen compound and providing an enhanced whitening effect upon the teeth.
2. The method of claim 1 wherein the peroxygen compound is hydrogen peroxide.
3. The method of claim 1 wherein the peroxygen compound is urea peroxide.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the peroxygen compound is calcium peroxide.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the peroxygen compound is sodium percarbonate.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the peroxygen compound is sodium perborate.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the transition metal oxide is titanium dioxide.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein the transition metal oxide is zinc oxide.
9. The method of claim 1 wherein the transition metal chelating agent is one or more selected from trisodium pyrophosphate, tetrasodium diphosphate, sodium hexametaphosphate, sodium trimetaphosphate, sodium tripolyphosphate, potassium tripolyphosphate, phosphonic acid, di and tri phosphonic acid compound or its salts for example 1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-diphosphonic acid.
10. The method of claim 1 wherein the transition metal chelating agent is one or more selected from trisodium pyrophosphate, sodium hexametaphosphate, sodium trimetaphosphate, sodium tripolyphosphate, tetrasodium diphosphate, potassium tripolyphosphate, phosphonic acid, di and tri phosphonic acid compound or its salts, for example, 1-hydroxyethylidene-1,1-diphosphonic acid.
11. A two component whitening dentifrice composition which exhibits rapid whitening of stained or discolored teeth, which composition comprises a first dentifrice component containing a peroxygen compound and a second dentifrice component containing an insoluble transition metal compound complexed with metal chelating agents, the first and second dentifrice components being kept separate from each other until dispensed for application to teeth.



12. The composition of claim 11 wherein the peroxygen compound is hydrogen peroxide.
13. The composition of claim 11 wherein the peroxygen compound is urea peroxide.
14. The composition of claim 11 wherein the peroxygen compound is sodium percarbonate.
15. The composition of claim 11 wherein the peroxygen compound is calcium peroxide.
16. The composition of claim 11 wherein the peroxygen compound is sodium perborate.
17. The composition of claim 11 wherein the insoluble transition metal oxide is titanium dioxide
18. The composition of claim 11 wherein the insoluble transition metal oxide is zinc oxide

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